



8200 WESTMINSTER BLVD. WESTMINSTER, CA 92683

PHONE: (714) 898-3311 WWW.WESTMINSTER-CA.GOV

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Christine Cordon, City Manager (714) 548-3177, ccordon@westminster-ca.gov

City of Westminster's Garden Grove Complete Streets Project Honored with **Multiple Transportation Awards**

WESTMINSTER, Calif. - The City of Westminster's Garden Grove Complete Street Project has been honored with awards from two prestigious organizations for excellence in transportation.

"We are proud to be recognized by these two esteemed organizations," said City Manager Christine Cordon. "Notably, we were recognized for both transportation planning and for engineering. Safe streets are a priority for Westminster and our staff has made this project into a reality that improves the experience for our residents and visitors."

The Project installed approximately three miles of bicycle lanes in the City of Westminster, including a protected bikeway, on Garden Grove Boulevard from the State Route 22 on-ramp at Valley View Street to the State Route 22 off-ramp at Goldenwest Street, as well as a landscaped median and additional safety and aesthetic upgrades.

The Garden Grove Complete Street Project has received the 2024 Outstanding Transportation Project Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers, Orange County Branch (ASCE OC); as well as the 2024 Complete Streets Project of the Year Award from the California Transportation Foundation, which honors excellence in transportation statewide.

The American Planning Association Orange County Section has also unveiled its winners of the 2024 Orange Section Awards, and the Garden Grove Complete Streets Project will be honored with the Transportation Planning Award later this fall.

"We are honored to have been recognized for this project," stated Assistant City Manager Adolfo Ozaeta, who oversaw the Project in his capacity as a State of California-licensed Traffic Engineer. "This was truly a labor of love as we work to make our city safer for bicyclists and pedestrians and provide beautiful pathways for travel."

The Project replaced a dirt pathway with a landscaped median, stamped concrete, illuminated pedestrian crosswalks, traffic signal modifications, and a reduced number of travel lanes (from four to two), which reduced speed and created a safer environment for bicyclists and pedestrians. Buffered bike lanes have been installed on Edwards Street between Garden Grove Boulevard and Trask Avenue, and on Trask Avenue between Edwards Street and Hoover Street. These bicycle lanes will connect with the future Mendez Freedom Trail on Hoover Street from Garden Grove Boulevard to Bolsa Avenue.

The Garden Grove Boulevard Complete Street Project was funded by \$2.76 million from a competitive state grant from the Caltrans Active Transportation Program and is part of the City of Westminster's General Plan, Mobility Element, and Active Transportation Plan.

Photos and videos of the completed project can be provided upon request by emailing Management Analyst Veronica Johnson at <u>vejohnson@westminster-ca.gov</u>. A video from the California Transportation Foundation featuring the finalists for the Complete Streets Project of the Year Award, including Westminster's entry, can be viewed here: <u>18 Complete Streets</u> <u>Project Finalists - YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laiZ5x764Z0)</u>.

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